

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An assembly, comprising:
 - a patio umbrella having a plurality of ribs, and a pole, the pole having a top end;
 - a lighting system having:
 - a power source;
 - a plurality of wire branches, each wire branch being separate from and releasably attached to one of the ribs;
 - an interconnecting wire that connects the plurality of wire branches, the interconnecting wire ~~[[positioned adjacent]]~~ being separate from and removably attached to the top end of the pole;
 - a plurality of LED devices spaced apart along each wire branch; and
 - a wire that couples the power source to the wire branches.
2. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, further including a mounting bracket that is releasably mounted to the pole, with the power source being a battery retained in a battery housing that is removably mounted to the mounting bracket.
3. (Original) The assembly of claim 2, wherein the battery housing has a pocket within which the mounting bracket is received.
4. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the LED device includes a PCB, a chip driver connected to the PCB, and an LED attached to the PCB.
- 5-6. (Canceled).
7. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, further including means for securing the interconnecting wire to the pole of the umbrella.
8. (Currently Amended) A lighting system that is used with a patio umbrella having a plurality of ribs, and a pole having a top end, the lighting system comprising:
 - a power source;
 - a plurality of wire branches, each wire branch being separate from and releasably attached to one of the ribs;
 - an interconnecting wire that connects the plurality of wire branches, the

interconnecting wire [[positioned adjacent]] being separate from and removably attached to the top end of the pole;

a plurality of LED devices spaced apart along each wire branch; and
a wire that couples the power source to the wire branches.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, further including a mounting bracket that is releasably mounted to a pole of a patio umbrella, with the power source being a battery retained in a battery housing that is removably mounted to the mounting bracket.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the battery housing has a pocket within which the mounting bracket is received.

11. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the LED device includes a PCB, a chip driver connected to the PCB, and an LED attached to the PCB.

12-13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, further including means for securing the interconnecting wire to the pole.

15-19. (Canceled).

20. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the interconnecting wire forms a ring about the pole.

21. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the interconnecting wire and the wire branches are formed as a single wire.

22. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the interconnecting wire forms a ring about the pole.

23. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the interconnecting wire and the wire branches are formed as a single wire.

24. (New) The assembly of claim 1, further including a pole strap that removably attaches the interconnecting wire to the top end of the pole.

25. (New) The system of claim 8, further including a pole strap that removably attaches the interconnecting wire to the top end of the pole.